



UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH

Lehrstuhl für
Wirtschaftsgeographie

M.A. Development Studies, A3: Geographies of Environment and Development

POLITICAL ECOLOGY OF GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS

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Wed 2-4pm | S22 (GEOII)

INHALT

Supply chains make the world go round. But what are the environmental costs attached to global supply chains? This seminar provides a unique perspective on contemporary debates about the political ecology of global supply chains.

The course is organized into four sections. First, we approach capitalism, development and nature and ask both about the past and the future of the planet. Second, we study the architecture of contemporary global trade. Here, we focus on the infrastructures and operations of global supply chains and descend into the »hidden abode« of supply chain capitalism. Third, we analyse the immense environmental costs attached to global trade and follow structures of unequal exchange and

geographically uneven environmental burdens. Finally, we consider approaches for making global supply chains more just and sustainable.

Readings are drawn from economic geography, anthropology, political ecology and ecological economics.

Active participation, reading and preparing English-language literature and the preparation of a seminar session are prerequisites for participation. The principal assignment is an essay that critically engages with one of our discussed topics. You can select from a number of pre-distributed questions.



Dillon Marsh, Palabora Mine, 4.1 million tonnes of copper – dillonmarsh.com